

Chapter 2: The English Connection

Introduction

*"I am the family face;
Flesh perishes, I live on,
Projecting trait and trace
Through time to times anon..."*

Thomas Hardy

Genealogists with English roots are indebted to William the Conqueror for ordering the records compiled in the Domesday Book in 1085-6. Less well known but of utmost importance to family historians was William's incisive decree, after winning the 1066 Battle of Hastings, that all his new subjects select surnames. However, just as those choosing a name related to their occupation such as Smith are not related to all Smiths, those choosing a surname related to a geographical landmark, such as a black lake, are not necessarily related to others of that surname, even from the same locality. Adding to the confusion, a smith's three sons might have named themselves Farmer, Miller and Cook if they had entered different occupations. Similarly, variations in spelling the chosen surname by siblings, descendants or various scribes obscure familial relationships in the absence of other evidence.

As mentioned in Chapter 1, two locales in early England (in Lancashire and Cheshire) have been identified as probable sources of the patronym Black-lache and its many variations. Families with surnames apparently derived from the still extant Black Lake located in Wilmslow, Cheshire, have been identified in that vicinity by the 13th century and those derived from the Blakelache once located near Lathom, Lancashire, as early as the 12th century.

Spelling of the Name

Blackledge has evolved as the most common modern spelling, with this and many variations identified in early English records: e.g., **Blachlach** (Leyland 1681, Standish Parish 1640, Macclesfield 1616- 1719, Wigan 1641), **Blackaladge**, **Blackalidg**, **Blacklach** (Derbyshire 1473, Macclesfield 1615, Ormskirk 1634, Leyland 1681), **Blacklache**, **Blackelache** (Subsidy Rolls of Lancashire 1332, Bellingham 1607-1614), **Blackeladg**, **Blackelatch**, **Blackeledg** (Ormskirk 1562-1644), **Blackeleidge**, **Blackelidge** (Ormskirk 1639), **Blackilidge**, **Blacklash**, **Blacklatch** (Leyland 1641), **Blackleach** (Leyland 1150-1180, Liverpool 1207, Preston 1150, Macclesfield 1673-1719, Manchester 1724, St. Michaels 1809), **Blackleache** (Macclesfield 1679), **Blackleag**, **Blackleagh**, **Blackledg** (Chorley 1633-1704), **Blackledge** (Aughton 1671-1803, Brindle 1602-1887, Chorley 1630-1825, Down Holland 1660, Farrington 1682, Heapey 1681-1833, Howick 1680-1746, Hutton 1663, Leyland 1673-1788, Macclesfield 1695, Ormskirk 1566-1709; Preston 1683-1706, Standish 1635, Wheelton 1705-1718, Whittle 1624-1711, Withnell 1704-1825), **Blackleech** (Blackrod 1644, Ormskirk 1666, Aughton 1698), **Blackleeche**, **Blackleedge**

(Ormskirk 1658-1665), **Blackleigh** (Ormskirk, 1665), **Blacklidge** (Ormskirk 1583-1699, Preston 1668-9, Heapey 1681, Warrington 1682-96, Howick 1746), **Blacklych**, **Blakalidg**, **Blakelache**, **Blakeleach**, **Blakeleche**, **Blakeliche**, **Blakelych**, **Blakeleidge**, **Blakelidge**, **Blaklach**, **Blaklache**, **Blakledg** (Aughton 1759), **Blakledge** (Chester 1759), **Blaklidge** (Preston 1662), **Blaklych**, and **Bleakledge** (Farrington 1682).^{i,ii} (Variations found in the United States include **Blackleach**,ⁱⁱⁱ **Blackled**,^{iv} **Blackledch**,^v **Blackledg**,^{vi} **Blackledge**, **Blackleech**, **Blacklege**,^{vii} **Blacklidg**,^{viii} **Blacklidge**, and **Blaklech**^{ix}). The majority of these early English families were to be found within a fifty mile radius of the Blakelache mentioned in a 1387 boundary dispute between the Prior of Burscough and a local landowner near Lathom, County Lancashire. It is noteworthy that one of the witnesses to the settlement was John of Blythe, also known as Richard Blackledge of Blythe Hall (at that time the surname was never used in signing legal documents)^x.

History of the Name

The earliest recorded Blackledges, in the many variations of the surname, were Anglo-Saxons living in northwestern England at the time of the Norman Conquest in 1066. A Blackleach was recorded in Preston, County Lancashire, in 1150.^{xi} In 1180 Nicholas Blackleach resided at Bursco Place (Burscough), Leyland, which is where the murky brook called Blakelache used to be. The name is to be found in Liverpool in 1207 among the henchmen of the Earls of Derby.^{xii} In 1332 John de Blakelache was buried in Aughton Parish and a 20th Century English resident of Ambleside, Cumbria, has traced his Blackledge family tree to Chorley in that same era.^{xiii, xiv}

Norman oppression and land confiscation caused many Saxon landowners, including some of these early Blackledges, to move north from Cheshire and Lancaster as far as Scotland. By 1321 A.D. branches had moved to Berwick on the English /Scottish border and to Dumfriesshire in lowland Scotland. Branches of the family were recorded in Lancashire between Bury and Manchester. Other branches were able to accommodate to changing times, to retain their ancestral homes, and even to expand throughout Lancashire and south as far as London over the next three centuries.

The first Blackledge line prominent enough to leave an enduring record appears to be the family associated with Blythe Hall in Leyland, County Lancashire. Ewan (originally Huan, now Evan or Owen, from the Celtic for “well born”) Blakelache (born in 1429) of Lathom had two prominent sons: The eldest being Huan, Bishop of Sodor and Man from 1487-1510 and reputedly born at Blythe Hall; and John, who came into the estate of Blythe Hall through his marriage in 1480 to Margaret de Blythe. Her family was known to have owned the estate since 1189. Bishop Huan was buried under a stone on the north side of Ormskirk Parish Church.

John’s son, Henry, inherited the Hall and brought it safely through the perilous times of Henry VIII’s Reformation which wreaked havoc upon many Catholic-owned properties. Henry’s son, Ewan, succeeded his father in 1538, renamed Blythe Hall as Blakelache Hall, and upon his death was buried at his



Blythe Hall as it appears today: Lathom, England. This large estate house was altered in the early 19th Century, and radically altered and enlarged c. 1920 for the 3rd Earl of Lathom. Photo is from Sep 1994, courtesy of Linda Grace Talbot [6:3065].

request at the same location as Bishop Huan. Blythe Hall remained in the Blackelache family's possession for five more generations while such landowners found it increasingly difficult to maintain their estates and great houses. Evan Blakelache, born in 1674, had become a ship's carpenter in Essex and found it expedient to sell his inheritance in 1693. Fortunately, succeeding owners have maintained Blythe Hall and kept records of its history. At least two families with members still residing in Lancashire believe that their roots lead back to Blythe Hall. One of these has an American descendant, Ronald Alan Blackledge of Long Beach, California, whose father immigrated to the United States in 1904. That line, descending from Ewan Blakelache and presented at the end of this chapter, illustrates how at least one Blackledge family has spread from England to Australia, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, South Africa, and the United States.

Father William Denis Blackledge, of Sacred Heart Church in Liverpool, was heard throughout the United States on National Public Radio giving his thoughtful commentary on the first anniversary of Princess Diana's death. He and his cousin Mary Bernadette Bateson Baker of Chorley can trace their family back to Brindle and Whittle-le-Woods in 1705. While believing their Roman Catholic family is descended from the family associated with Blythe Hall, religious persecution during the Reformation and continuing into the early 18th century hampers research before then. During that era parish records only were allowed to be kept of baptisms and marriages performed by Anglican priests.^{xv} Some parish records, e.g. at Aughton, simply were not kept during that era.^{xvi} When Charles I dissolved Parliament in 1629 and used the Anglican Church as an instrument of the State, many English subjects chose to immigrate to Holland and the New World.^{xvii} The Society of Friends (Quakers), founded in England in 1652 in opposition to the Church of England soon converted at least one Blackledge (Hannah Blackledge, a Quaker of Whittle, was buried in Layland in 1721). (Source: Browley, op cit.). Chapter 5, descendants of William, will document many more Quakers in the United States.

The survival of the Blackledges associated with Blythe Hall during these perilous times may be attributed to material strength and political astuteness. Bishop Huan is reputed to have paid the debts of the Blythe Hall estate after his younger brother married the heiress.^{xviii} Wealth and social status can be inferred by the registration of Nicholas Blackleech of Gloucestershire County at the University of Oxford in 1587. He may be related to the Nicholas Blackleech who became Doctor of Phisick to King Henry VIII during his reign from 1509 to 1547. This connection undoubtedly served the family well during Henry's reign. The doctor's son, John Blackleech of Laylond (Leyland) in County Lancashire, married Janette Fleetwood, daughter of Baron Fleetwood of Newton and Rossall Hall, Lancashire, and is known to have used the coat of arms bearing six sable and gold horizontal stripes, a falcon crest and the motto "*Lux et Perseverantia*" – by light and perseverance. (see Chapter 1 for image)^{xix}

William, son of Nicholas and Janette, became Chancellor of the diocese of Gloucester and married Mary, daughter of Henry Kentish of St. Albans, County Herefordshire 23 June 1570. Aubrey, their "son and heir apparent" was a student at Grey's Inn, 1605. Lettice "Blacklach of Leland" who married Richard Werdon of Chester before 1600 is probably related to this line.^{xx} Another son, Abraham Blackleech of London, "Gentleman" married Gertrude, daughter of Ambrose Elton, Esq. of Ledbury in County Hereforshire and died 30 November 1639.^{xxi} He is reputed to be the father of John Blackleach, Sr., who is known to have used the same coat of arms and whose line is covered in Chapter 3. This John Blackleach, Sr. came from a prominent family, possessed an excellent education, and had sufficient substance or credit to support his commercial endeavors. He is believed to have voyaged to the American colonies as early as 1620 and may be the person by that name who was licensed in 1624 to sail from England to Amsterdam.^{xxii} Marrying into a seafaring family and immigrating to New England, one of his subsequent return voyages to England occurred during the furor created by the 1649 execution of Charles I. In an eloquent 90 page discourse, privately printed, John demonstrated vast theological knowledge, reasoning skills and persuasive powers as he reluctantly defended the death sentence. Pleading for tolerance in religion and support of law and order, he clearly sought to avoid any difficulties with Cromwell or Parliament.^{xxiii}

Other prominent English possessors of this surname include Abram Blackleach, Alderman, who died in 1639 and is memorialized by a statuette in Gloucester Cathedral;^{xxiv} and Samuel Blacklach, Mayor of Macclesfield, East Cheshire, in 1615, who is memorialized on a plaque at the town center.

Since the first census taken in Great Britain in 1801 (and every ten years thereafter except in 1941), family research has become much easier. Insufficient further documentation for many Blackledges known to have immigrated from Great Britain from colonial days to 20th century America has made it impractical to include them in this work. (Example: on 6 April 1842, the ship *Kalamazoo* arrived from Liverpool in New York Port with the family of a laborer, Robert Blackleg (sic) age 29, his wife age 29, son John age 8, Sarah age 6 and Racheal (sic) age 2.) Fifty-five immigrants spelling the surname Blackledge are recorded as having come through Ellis Island from 1903 to 1924.

In the next several pages the compilers present a record tracing one family from the Blackledge years at Blythe Hall to the present in California. Paul Blackledge [54] in Generation 15 is the first recorded of this line to reside in the United States. This English connection serves as a point of departure for our look at other Blackledge families in America.

ⁱ Browley, James, of Lathom, Ormskirk, Lancaster, England, investigation done for James Blackledge, Esqr. J.P., 6 Nov 1913.

ⁱⁱ English Parish Records, Lancashire (Salford & West Derby Hundreds), Cheshire, Flintshire, Ancestry.com CD ISBN 1-931279-80-2, MyFamily.com, Inc. 2001.

ⁱⁱⁱ US Natl Archives, Atlantic Ports, Gulf Coasts, & Great Lakes Passenger Lists, 1820-71. Daniel W. Blackleach, a physician, arrived from Jamaica at Alexandria, VA, between 1 July & 30 September, 1843. His country of origin was listed as the United States.

^{iv} US Civil War Union Soldier Archives, Roll of Honor, Gilbert Blackled, 1861-1865.

^v US Census, New York City, 1870, Oliver Blackledch.

^{vi} US Census, 1810- KY, Bud Blackledg; 1850-CT, Franklin Blackledg; FamilyTreeMaker Marriage Index, Samuel Blackledg

^{vii} US Census, 1850-IN, Edmund Blacklege; 1860-IN, Alfred, Joseph, Phoebe, William, William G., & Joel.

^{viii} US Census, 1860-AL, E. Blacklidg; 1860-IN, Hiram Blacklidg.

^{ix} *The Great Migration Begins: Immigrants to New England, 1620-33*, Sketch of Charles Gott

^x Browley.

^{xi} Ewan George Blackledge (1919-) of Liverpool, Lancashire, England, Family History.

^{xii} Ibid.

^{xiii} Prof. David Blackledge. Trinity and All Saints University College, Leeds, England, correspondence with David W. Blackledge of Carlisle, PA.

^{xiv} English Parish Records, op. cit.

^{xv} "Bernie" Bateson Baker. 1999 correspondence with David W. Blackledge

^{xvi} op. cit. Blackledges of Leyland and Blythe Hall, lineage chart.

^{xvii} Winston Churchill. *History of the English-Speaking Peoples*, Vol. II, (Casell paperback, 1956)

^{xviii} op. cit., "Bernie" Bateson Baker.

^{xix} The Visitation of London, Abraham Blackleeche.

^{xx} The Visitation of Cheshire, 1613, Harleian, 1909.

^{xxi} Reported in the Visitation of London, 1633. Harleian Publishing Society of London, 1635-5. P.76, Vol. 1 of Pub. 15.; Vol. VII, Part II, p. 160. Harleian Publishing Society of Cheshire, by Arthr Adams. Vol. XCIII, p.9.

^{xxii} Blacklidg, W.E., notes in his pamphlet *Blacklidges in America* on file with New England Historic Genealogical Society. Gives source as "Genealogist N.S. Vol. 26, p. 47.

^{xxiii} "Endeavors Aiming at the Glory of God, that Peace and Truth may meet together: etc." John Blackleach, London, Printed by John Macock for the Author, 1650. Copy in The British Library, London.

^{xxiv} Postcard picture of the statuette was in possession of Mabel Hinrichs of Chicago, IL in the 1920's.

Descendants of Ewan BLAKELACHE

First Generation

1. **Ewan BLAKELACHE**¹ was born in 1429 in Lancashire, England. His name is also found spelled Huan and Evan.

Ewan BLAKELACHE had the following children:

- 2 i. **Huan BLAKELACHE**² was born about 1450 in Lancashire, England.³ He died in 1509 or 1510 in England.^{1,4} The lineage chart prepared for James Gressier Blackledge lists the year of death as 1509, whereas two other sources give the burial date as 1510. He was buried in 1510 in Ormskirk Church, Lancashire, England.⁴ He is reported to have been born in Blythe (later Blakelache) Hall in Lathom.^{1,4} Huan was consecrated as the Bishop of Sodor and Man in 1487 and remained so until his death. He witnessed the deed wherein Margaret de Blythe and her husband John Blakelache (Huan's brother) leased her inherited Blythe Hall land holdings (in Lathom, Burscough, Aughton and Uplitherland) to Thomas (illegitimate son of John de Blythe) in 1488.
- +3 ii. **John BLAKELACHE**, born Lancashire, England^{2,5}; married Margaret DE BLYTHE, in 1480, Lancashire, England^{1,2,4,5}; died Lancashire, England^{2,5}.

Second Generation

3. **John BLAKELACHE**² was born in Lancashire, England.^{2,5} He died in Lancashire, England.^{2,5}

John BLAKELACHE and Margaret DE BLYTHE married in 1480 in Lancashire, England.^{1,2,4,5} **Margaret DE BLYTHE**^{2,5} (daughter of Roger BLYTHE). Margaret's family owned the estate of Blythe Hall at Lathom which she inherited upon her brother's death. It subsequently remained in the Blackledge family until it was sold in 1698. John BLAKELACHE and Margaret DE BLYTHE had the following children:

- +4 i. **Henry BLAKELACHE**, born before 1500^{1,4}; married Jane SWIFT; died in 1557, Lancashire, England^{1,5}.

Third Generation

4. **Henry BLAKELACHE**^{1,4} was born before 1500.^{1,4} He was buried in Jan 1557 in Ormskirk, Lancashire, England.⁶ He died in 1557 in Lancashire, England.^{1,5} Henry, the eldest son of Margaret and John, was living at Blythe Hall during the Reformation in 1536 when Henry VIII closed down the monasteries, including Burscough Abbey adjacent to Blythe Hall, and seized their assets.

Henry BLAKELACHE and Jane SWIFT married. **Jane SWIFT**⁵. Henry BLAKELACHE and Jane SWIFT had the following children:

- +5 i. **Evan BLAKELACHE**, born before 1538, Lancashire, England²; married Alice; died in 1566, Lanthom, Lancashire, England⁷.
- +6 ii. **John BLAKELACHE**, married LANGLEY^{2,7}.
- 7 iii. **Richard BLAKELACHE**^{2,7}.
- +8 iv. **Henry BLAKELACHE**.
- 9 v. **<child> BLAKELACHE**^{2,7}.
- +10 vi. **Alice BLAKELACHE**, married Thomas AYSCOUGH^{2,7}.
- +11 vii. **<daughter> BLAKELACHE**, married Ralph LANGLEY⁷.

Fourth Generation

5. **Evan BLAKELACHE** was born before 1538 in Lancashire, England.² He was buried on 26 Jan 1566 in Ormskirk, Lancashire, England.⁶ He died in 1566 in Lanthom, Lancashire, England.⁷ Evan succeeded his father at Blythe Hall in 1538 and renamed it Blakelache Hall. In his will, made in July 1565, he "...desired to be buried in Ormskirk church, on the north side of an overlay or stone under which Bishop Blackledge was buried." "He bequeathed his lands in Lathom, Aughton, etc. and various furniture to remain in Blackledge Hall in Lathom as heirlooms forever." The will was proved at Warrington on 17 Apr 1567. This will mentions his wife Alice, his brother John as his heir, his brother Richard, his own son Ewan, John son of Henry, another brother, Alice his sister (wife of Thomas Ayscough) and William her son; also Ralph Langley, husband of another sister, and Ewan their son. The vicar of Ormskirk was one of the witnesses.

(Note: *A History of Lancashire* spells the surname "Blackledge" and the first name "Evan" from 1565 on, which apparently was not the way they were spelled in documents at the time.)

Evan BLAKELACHE and Alice married. The lineage chart prepared for James Gressier Blackledge shows Ewan, the son of Henry, marrying Anne Stopforth. She more likely married Henry's grandson Ewan, this only son of Ewan and Alice. **Alice**. Evan BLAKELACHE and Alice had the following children:

- 12 i. **Ewan BLAKELACHE** was born before 1565.^{2,4} He was buried on 1 Feb 1612 in Ormskirk, Lancashire, England.⁶ He died on 31 Jan 1612/13 in Lathom, Lancashire, England.² This only son of Evan and Alice apparently was too young to assume responsibility for the estate upon his father's death in 1566. However, he may be the Evan who inherited the estate upon the death of his uncle John, in which case he is the Evan who died in Lathom on 31 Jan 1612/13.

6. **John BLAKELACHE**^{2,4}. John managed the estate after his father Henry's death in 1557 and inherited the estate upon his brother Ewan's death. He exchanged Blythe Meadow in Aughton with his brother-in-law, Ralph Langley, who owned some land closer to the Hall. (Note: This John is missing in the lineage chart prepared for James Gressier Blackledge.)

John BLAKELACHE and LANGLEY married.^{2,7} **LANGLEY**⁴. John BLAKELACHE and LANGLEY had the following children:

- +13 i. **Evan BLAKELACHE**, born before 1565²; married Anne STOPFORTH, on 4 Oct 1562, Ormskirk Church, Lancashire, England^{1,6}.

8. **Henry BLAKELACHE**^{2,7}.

Henry BLAKELACHE had the following children:

- 14 i. **John BLAKELACHE**^{2,7}.

10. **Alice BLAKELACHE**^{2,7}.

Alice BLAKELACHE and Thomas AYSCOUGH married.^{2,7} **Thomas AYSCOUGH**. Alice BLAKELACHE and Thomas AYSCOUGH had the following children:

- 15 i. **William AYSCOUGH**⁷.

11. <daughter> **BLAKELACHE**^{2,7}.

<daughter> BLAKELACHE and Ralph LANGLEY married.⁷ **Ralph LANGLEY**. <daughter> BLAKELACHE and Ralph LANGLEY had the following children:

- 16 i. **Ewan LANGLEY** was born before 1565.⁷

Fifth Generation

13. **Evan BLAKELACHE**^{3,4} was born before 1562.² He probably is the "Ewan (Huan) of Blythe Hall, Lathom, gentleman" who was attorney in 1570 for Hugh Standish of Ormskirk (of the family of Captain Miles Standish who worshipped there before immigrating). (See New England Gen. Reg. Vol 68, p. 368). *A History of Lancashire* states that apparently this Ewan is the son of John who had married a Landlee and acquired her estate. In which case, he also is the Evan who died at Lathom on 31 Jan 1612-13.

Evan BLAKELACHE and Anne STOPFORTH married on 4 Oct 1562 in Ormskirk Church, Lancashire, England.^{1,6} His given name is Ewan on the church register. **Anne STOPFORTH**^{4,5}. Evan BLAKELACHE and Anne STOPFORTH had the following children:

- +17 i. **John BLAKELACHE**, born between 1570 and 1575, Lancashire, England^{1,2,5,6}; married Margaret WALTON, in 1593, England^{1,2}; died in 1633, Lancashire, England^{1,5}.
- +18 ii. **Richard BLACKLEDGE**, born in 1579¹; married Cicely WOODS, on 3 Aug 1630, Ormskirk Church, Lancashire, England^{1,6}; married Gratia¹; died in 1663¹.

Sixth Generation

17. **John BLAKELACHE**² was born between 1570 and 1575 in Lancashire, England.^{1,2,5,6} John was baptized on 2 Dec 1570. *The History of Lancashire* states that John was aged 42 years and more when his father died on 31 Jan 1612-13. The lineage chart prepared for James Gressier Blackledge lists 1575 as

John's year of birth. He died in 1633 in Lancashire, England.^{1,5} He contributed to the Lancashire subsidy of 1628.

John BLAKELACHE and Margaret WALTON married in 1593 in England.^{1,2} **Margaret WALTON** (daughter of Henry WALTON). John BLAKELACHE and Margaret WALTON had the following children:

- +19 i. **Evan BLACKLEDGE**, died in or before 1658, England².
- 20 ii. **John BLACKLEDGE**⁴.

18. **Richard BLACKLEDGE** was born in 1579.¹ He was baptized on 27 Nov 1579 in Ormskirk Church, Lancashire, England.⁶ He died in 1663.¹ It appears that the family began to spell the name "Blackledge" during either Richard's lifetime or that of his offspring.

Richard BLACKLEDGE and Cicely WOODS married on 3 Aug 1630 in Ormskirk Church, Lancashire, England.^{1,6} **Cicely WOODS**⁵. Richard BLACKLEDGE and Cicely WOODS had the following children:

- +21 i. **William BLACKLEDGE**, married Anne GOULBORNE, in Jan 1653^{1,6}.

Richard BLACKLEDGE and Gratia married.¹ **Gratia**⁵. Gratia was Richard's second wife.

Seventh Generation

19. **Evan BLACKLEDGE** died in or before 1658 in England.²

Evan BLACKLEDGE had the following children:

- +22 i. **John BLACKLEDGE**, born in 1622, England²; married Elizabeth JODRELL, in Aug 1658^{2,6}; died before 1683, England².
- +23 ii. **James BLAKELACHE**, married Elizabeth GROOM, in 1661, England^{1,2}.
- 24 iii. **Thomas BLACKLEDGE**⁵.

21. **William BLACKLEDGE**¹.

William BLACKLEDGE and Anne GOULBORNE married in Jan 1653.^{1,6} **Anne GOULBORNE**. William BLACKLEDGE and Anne GOULBORNE had the following children:

- +25 i. **Richard BLACKLEDGE Sr.**.
- +26 ii. **John BLACKLEDGE**.

Eighth Generation

22. **John BLACKLEDGE** was born in 1622 in England.² He died before 1683 in England.² John died without issue.

John BLACKLEDGE and Elizabeth JODRELL married in Aug 1658.^{2,6} **Elizabeth JODRELL** was of

Leek, County Stafford.⁶

23. **James BLAKELACHE**^{2,4}. James, a London pewterer, succeeded to Blythe Hall when his older brother, John, died without issue before 1683.

James BLAKELACHE and Elizabeth GROOM married in 1661 in England.^{1,2} **Elizabeth GROOM**. James BLAKELACHE and Elizabeth GROOM had the following children:

- 27 i. **Ewan BLAKELACHE**^{2,4} was born in 1674.⁴ This Evan was a ship's carpenter described in a deed as "of the parish of St. John, Wapping, gentleman, and of Blythe Hall." He sold the Lathom estate, including Blythe Hall, to William Hill of Burscough in 1693 for 670 pounds (half for the house and half for 45 acres of land). (Note: *A History of Lancashire* says the estate was sold to William Hill in 1698.)

25. **Richard BLACKLEDGE Sr.**¹.

Richard BLACKLEDGE Sr. had the following children:

- +28 i. **Richard BLACKLEDGE Jr.**.

26. **John BLACKLEDGE**¹.

John BLACKLEDGE had the following children:

- +29 i. **Mary BLACKLEDGE**, married Henry NORREYS⁵; died 1740⁵.

Ninth Generation

28. **Richard BLACKLEDGE Jr.**¹ had twin sons.¹

Richard BLACKLEDGE Jr. had the following children:

- +30 i. **William BLACKLEDGE**, born in 1640, Lancashire, England¹; married Anne GRADWELL, in 1713¹; married Margaret¹; died in 1722, Lancashire, England¹.
- 31 ii. **Richard BLACKLEDGE** was born in 1640 in England.¹ William and Richard were twins.

29. **Mary BLACKLEDGE** died in 1740.⁵

Mary BLACKLEDGE and Henry NORREYS married.⁵ **Henry NORREYS** was born in 1684. He died in 1738. His will was dated 1738 and was proved in 1739. He was from Penwortham, England.⁸ Mary BLACKLEDGE and Henry NORREYS had the following children:

- 32 i. **Henry NORREYS** was heir to his father's estate.⁸
- 33 ii. **William NORREYS** was "of Withnell" and had no children.⁸
- 34 iii. **Robert NORREYS** had no children.⁸
- +35 iv. **Thomas NORREYS**, married Mrs. COCHRANE, first⁸.

- +36 v. **Margaret NORREYS**, married Adam SAUNDERSON Esq.⁸.
- +37 vi. **Elizabeth NORREYS**, married John HARRISON Esq.⁸.

Tenth Generation

30. **William BLACKLEDGE** was born in 1640 in Lancashire, England.¹ He died in 1722 in Lancashire, England.¹

William BLACKLEDGE and Anne GRADWELL married in 1713.¹ **Anne GRADWELL**. Anne was William's first wife.

William BLACKLEDGE and Margaret married.¹ **Margaret**⁵. William BLACKLEDGE and Margaret had the following children:

- +38 i. **John BLACKLEDGE**, born in 1721, Lancashire, England¹; married Anne BUSSELL¹; died in 1762, Lancashire, England¹.

35. **Thomas NORREYS**⁸.

Thomas NORREYS and Mrs. COCHRANE married first.⁸ **Mrs. COCHRANE**. Thomas NORREYS and Mrs. COCHRANE had the following children:

- +39 i. **Thomas NORREYS**, married Alice WINSTANLEY, secondly⁸; married Jane HORTON, first⁸.

36. **Margaret NORREYS**⁸.

Margaret NORREYS and Adam SAUNDERSON Esq. married.⁸ **Adam SAUNDERSON Esq.** was of Preston, England.⁸

37. **Elizabeth NORREYS**⁸.

Elizabeth NORREYS and John HARRISON Esq married.⁸ **John HARRISON Esq** was of Bankfield, England.⁸

Eleventh Generation

38. **John BLACKLEDGE** was born in 1721 in Lancashire, England.¹ He died in 1762 in Lancashire, England.¹

John BLACKLEDGE and Anne BUSSELL married.¹ **Anne BUSSELL**⁵. John BLACKLEDGE and Anne BUSSELL had the following children:

- +40 i. **Thomas BLACKLEDGE**, born in 1753, Lancashire, England¹; married Margaret

BOND¹; died in 1845, Lancashire, England¹.

39. **Thomas NORREYS**⁸ lived in Liverpool, England.⁸

Thomas NORREYS and Jane HORTON married first.⁸ **Jane HORTON** (daughter of Walter HORTON Esq.). Thomas NORREYS and Jane HORTON had the following children:

- 42 i. **Walter NORREYS** was born in 1795.⁸
- 43 ii. **Thomas NORREYS** was born in 1797.⁸

Thomas NORREYS and Alice WINSTANLEY married secondly.⁸ **Alice WINSTANLEY** (daughter of Richard WINSTANLEY Esq). Thomas NORREYS and Alice WINSTANLEY had the following children:

- +41 i. **Robert NORREYS**, married Ellen ELLAMES⁸.

Twelfth Generation

40. **Thomas BLACKLEDGE** was born in 1753 in Lancashire, England.¹ He died in 1845 in Lancashire, England.¹ Thomas lived at Rose Farm, Aughton, now "Aughton Chase."

Thomas BLACKLEDGE and Margaret BOND married.¹ **Margaret BOND** was born in Lancashire, England.⁵ She died in Lancashire, England.⁵ Margaret is known to have lived at the east end of Lydiate Lane, Netherton, Lancashire. Thomas BLACKLEDGE and Margaret BOND had the following children:

- +44 i. **Robert BLACKLEDGE**, born in 1797, England¹; married Martha BALLION¹; died in 1856, England¹.

41. **Robert NORREYS**.

Robert NORREYS and Ellen ELLAMES married.⁸ **Ellen ELLAMES** was of Liverpool, England.⁸ Robert NORREYS and Ellen ELLAMES had the following children:

- 45 i. **Henry NORREYS**⁸.
- 46 ii. **Catherine NORREYS**⁸.

Thirteenth Generation

44. **Robert BLACKLEDGE** was born in 1797 in England.¹ He died in 1856 in England.¹ Robert is believed to have had a first wife before marrying Martha Ballion. Robert was sent to Australia but is buried at St. Peter and Paul, Crosby, England.

Robert BLACKLEDGE and Martha BALLION married.¹ **Martha BALLION**⁵. Robert BLACKLEDGE and Martha BALLION had the following children:

- +47 i. **James BLACKLEDGE**, born in 1822^{1,5}; married Mary DOBSON, before 1872⁹; married Rose Helen SHEEHAN, after 1873⁵; died in 1896^{1,5}.

Fourteenth Generation

47. **James BLACKLEDGE** was born in 1822.^{1,5} He died in 1896.^{1,5}

James and his first wife, Mary Dobson, had five children. The first four became nuns, lived at Rose Hill and are noted for making "The Death of Douglas" tapestry. They probably are among the nuns buried at Lydiat. James and Mary's youngest child, Robert, was sent to Australia.

James and his second wife had four sons and four daughters. At least two of these were among the first women to go to Cambridge University.

James BLACKLEDGE and Mary DOBSON married before 1872.⁹ **Mary DOBSON**⁵. James BLACKLEDGE and Mary DOBSON had the following children:

- 48 i. <daughter> **BLACKLEDGE** became a nun, lived at Rose Hill, and is probably buried among the nuns at Lydiat.
- 49 ii. <daughter> **BLACKLEDGE** became a nun, lived at Rose Hill, and is probably buried among the nuns at Lydiat.
- 50 iii. <daughter> **BLACKLEDGE** became a nun, lived at Rose Hill, and is probably buried among the nuns at Lydiat.
- 51 iv. <daughter> **BLACKLEDGE** became a nun, lived at Rose Hill, and is probably buried among the nuns at Lydiat.
- 52 v. **Robert BLACKLEDGE** was sent to Australia.

James BLACKLEDGE and Rose Helen SHEEHAN married after 1873.⁵ **Rose Helen SHEEHAN**^{5,9}. Rose, from Ireland, is "Rose Helen Sheehan" on her son Paul's baptismal certificate, "Rose Ellan Sheehan" on her son Paul's marriage certificate, and "Rose Ellen O'Sheehan" on Paul's death certificate. James BLACKLEDGE and Rose Helen SHEEHAN had the following children:

- +53 i. **James BLACKLEDGE J.P.**, born in 1861^{1,5}; married Lucy HEDITCH¹; married Kathleen MASSEY; died in 1939^{1,5}.
- +54 ii. **Paul BLACKLEDGE**, born on 26 Oct 1874, Liverpool, England^{1,9,10}; married Gertrude Rosetta McINTOSH, on 25 Sep 1905^{1,9}; died on 9 Jun 1940, Agnew, CA⁹.
- +55 iii. **Jane BLACKLEDGE**, married SALVE⁹.
- 56 iv. **Robert James BLACKLEDGE**^{1,9}.
- 57 v. **John BLACKLEDGE**¹¹.
- +58 vi. **Rose BLACKLEDGE**, married BAUM⁹.
- 59 vii. **Nelly BLACKLEDGE**¹¹ lived in London.
- 60 viii. **Catharine BLACKLEDGE**¹¹ settled in Paris.

Fifteenth Generation

53. **James BLACKLEDGE J.P.** was born in 1861.^{1,5} He died in 1939.^{1,5} According to the newspaper article on his eldest son's, J. G., wedding, James was a J. P. of Lydiat.

James BLACKLEDGE J.P. and Lucy HEDITCH married.¹ **Lucy HEDITCH**⁵. Lucy lived at Rose Hill and is buried at Lydiate. James BLACKLEDGE J.P. and Lucy HEDITCH had the following children:

- +61 i. **James Gressier BLACKLEDGE**, born on 24 Jun 1888, West Derby, Lancashire, England^{5,12,13}; married Helen CHAMBERLAIN; died in 1976, England^{5,12}.
- +62 ii. **Ralph BLACKLEDGE**, married Elta DOYLE⁹.
- 63 iii. **Dorothy BLACKLEDGE** was a bridesmaid at her brother J. G.'s wedding according to the newspaper account of the event.⁹
- 64 iv. **Ewan John BLACKLEDGE** died on 23 Nov 1917.⁹ Ewan John BLACKLEDGE was reported missing in action, and presumed dead in WWI on Friday, 23 Nov 1917 (France and Flanders Theatre of War). He served as a Lt. in the "King's Regiment" and was shot down by the younger brother of Germany's famed "Red Baron," as documented in the book *Under the Guns of German Aces*. No known grave, but commemorated on the Arras Flying Services Memorial, Pas de Calais, France (honoring over 1,000 airmen of the Royal Naval Service).

James BLACKLEDGE J.P. and Kathleen MASSEY married. **Kathleen MASSEY**⁵.

54. **Paul BLACKLEDGE** was born on 26 Oct 1874 in Liverpool, England.^{1,9,10} He was baptized on 2 Nov 1874 in St. Thomas of Canterbury Church, Waterloo, Liverpool, England.^{1,9} He emigrated in 1904 from Liverpool, England to USA.^{1,14} He was listed as insane when he registered/was registered for the draft in Agnews State Hospital, Santa Clara, Santa Clara Co, CA on 12 Sep 1918.¹⁰ Paul's wife, Mrs. Gertrude Blackledge, of Los Angeles, CA, was listed as his nearest relative. He appeared in the census in 1930 in Agnews State Hospital (insane), Santa Clara, Santa Clara Co, CA. He died on 9 Jun 1940 in Agnew, CA.⁹ Paul, who was educated at Ampleforth and Pembroke College, Oxford University, spoke Latin and Greek fluently. While at Oxford he was a member of its boxing and rowing teams. At age 29, in 1904, he immigrated to the USA, arriving at Ellis Island aboard the *Majestic*. He later was diagnosed as schizophrenic.

Paul BLACKLEDGE and Gertrude Rosetta McINTOSH married on 25 Sep 1905.^{1,9} **Gertrude Rosetta McINTOSH** (daughter of William McINTOSH and Ellen M. STARK) was born on 30 Sep 1874 in Bay City, MI.^{9,15} She appeared in the census in 1920 in South Pasadena, Los Angeles Co, CA. Listed as a second family in the household of Nettie A. Hewitt (39, divorced, born in MI, father born in Canada and mother in NY) no occupation) and her children, Gertrude Blackledge (44, married, born in MI, father born in Canada and mother in NY, newspaper librarian) was shown with her children Ellen (13) and William (11). She appeared in the census in 1930 in Los Angeles, Los Angeles Co, CA. Gertrude Blackledge (55, born in the U.S., married, librarian at the city library) was listed with her children, both single and born in CA: Ellen K. (23) and William F. (21). She died on 24 Jan 1962 in Pomona, CA.^{9,15} Paul BLACKLEDGE and Gertrude Rosetta McINTOSH had the following children:

- +65 i. **Ellen Katherine BLACKLEDGE**, born on 3 May 1906, Redlands, CA⁹; married Clinton Eugene CARTER, on 15 Dec 1934⁹; died on 5 Sep 1995, West Covina, CA⁹.
- +66 ii. **William Frank BLACKLEDGE**, born on 10 Jun 1908, Redlands, CA^{9,16}; married Cleo POTTER, on 1 Oct 1942, Loa, Wayne Co, UT^{9,17}; died on 2 Feb 1982, Nevada Co, CA¹⁸.

55. **Jane BLACKLEDGE**⁹ lived in Fiesole, Florence, Italy.

Jane BLACKLEDGE and SALVE married.⁹ **SALVE**. Jane BLACKLEDGE and SALVE had the following children:

67 i. **Bacchio SALVE**⁹.

58. **Rose BLACKLEDGE**⁹. Rose's husband was a major in the German calvary in WW I and was awarded the Iron Cross. At that time she went by "Pauline Baum."

Rose BLACKLEDGE and BAUM married.⁹ **BAUM**. Rose BLACKLEDGE and BAUM had the following children:

68 i. **Imogen BAUM**⁹.
 69 ii. **Reinhart BAUM**⁹.
 70 iii. **Irvin BAUM**⁹.
 71 iv. **Doris BAUM**⁹.

Sixteenth Generation

61. **James Gressier BLACKLEDGE** was born on 24 Jun 1888 in West Derby, Lancashire, England.^{5,12,13} He died in 1976 in England.^{5,12}

James Gressier BLACKLEDGE and Helen CHAMBERLAIN married. James and Helen were married at St. Austin's Church, Grassendale, Lancashire, England, and are buried at Thornton. The Archbishop of Liverpool obtained a special blessing upon their union from the Holy Father, according to the newspaper article on their wedding. **Helen CHAMBERLAIN**⁵ (daughter of G. C. CHAMBERLAIN). James Gressier BLACKLEDGE and Helen CHAMBERLAIN had the following children:

+72 i. **James Peter BLACKLEDGE**, born in 1915^{5,9}; married Margareta
 WARDENHOF, in 1948⁵; died in 1974⁵.
 73 ii. **Ann BLACKLEDGE**⁵.
 +74 iii. **Ewan George BLACKLEDGE**, born in 1919⁵; married Angela LYNCH.
 75 iv. **Helen BLACKLEDGE**⁵.
 +76 v. **Basil BLACKLEDGE**, married Anne⁹.

62. **Ralph BLACKLEDGE**. Ralph was the best man at his brother's, (J. G.) wedding according to the newspaper article.

Ralph BLACKLEDGE and Elta DOYLE married.⁹ **Elta DOYLE**.

65. **Ellen Katherine BLACKLEDGE**⁹ was born on 3 May 1906 in Redlands, CA.⁹ She died on 5 Sep 1995 in West Covina, CA.⁹ Ellen graduated from UCLA and was an Osteopathic physician (D.O.).

Ellen Katherine BLACKLEDGE and Clinton Eugene CARTER married on 15 Dec 1934.⁹ **Clinton Eugene CARTER** was born on 10 Oct 1905.⁹ Ellen Katherine BLACKLEDGE and Clinton Eugene CARTER had the following children:

77 i. **Ann Clinton CARTER** was born on 6 Nov 1935 in Glendale, CA.⁹

66. **William Frank BLACKLEDGE** was born on 10 Jun 1908 in Redlands, CA.^{9,16} He died on 2 Feb

1982 in Nevada Co, CA.¹⁸

William Frank BLACKLEDGE and Cleo POTTER married on 1 Oct 1942 in Loa, Wayne Co, UT.^{9,17} They filed for divorce in Apr 1977 in Nevada Co, CA.¹⁹ **Cleo POTTER**⁹ was born on 16 Dec 1923. William Frank BLACKLEDGE and Cleo POTTER had the following children:

- +78 i. **Sonya Rae BLACKLEDGE**, born on 8 May 1943⁹; married Kenny Joe DUCKWORTH, on 26 May 1962, Los Angeles Co, CA^{9,20}; married John Paul WEIR, in 1974⁹; married Richard E. AAMODT, on 17 Aug 1985, Contra Costa Co, CA²⁰.
- +79 ii. **Ronald Alan BLACKLEDGE**, born on 14 Jun 1945, Long Beach, Los Angeles Co, CA⁹; married Barbara Christine GAYLORD, on 17 Feb 1970, Los Angeles Co, CA^{9,21}; married Connie Sue ARRINGTON, on 3 Jul 1992, Minden, Douglas Co, NV^{9,22}.

Seventeenth Generation

72. **James Peter BLACKLEDGE** was born in 1915.^{5,9} He died in 1974.⁵ He is buried in Italy.

James Peter BLACKLEDGE and Margareta WARDENHOF married in 1948.⁵ **Margareta WARDENHOF**. James Peter BLACKLEDGE and Margareta WARDENHOF had the following children:

- +80 i. **James Erik BLACKLEDGE**, married Jane WILKINSON.

74. **Ewan George BLACKLEDGE** was born in 1919.⁵ Ewan's great-grandfather James Blackledge marketed grain, ground corn in his windmill, and operated a saw mill. Ewan's grandfather James, who had immigrated to South Africa, came back to England around 1880 to manage these businesses.

Ewan George BLACKLEDGE and Angela LYNCH married. **Angela LYNCH**⁵ died in 1999. Ewan George BLACKLEDGE and Angela LYNCH had the following children:

- 81 i. **Robert BLACKLEDGE**⁵ was born in 1956.
- +82 ii. **William BLACKLEDGE**, married Elisha⁹.
- +83 iii. **Nicholas BLACKLEDGE**, married Rachel⁹.
- 84 iv. **Angela BLACKLEDGE** died on 16 May 1999.⁹
- +85 v. **Jenny BLACKLEDGE**, married Paolo VIGLIETTA⁹.
- +86 vi. **Clare BLACKLEDGE**, married Robert BARNES⁹.
- +87 vii. **Elizabeth BLACKLEDGE**, married Nicholas MORONEY⁹.
- +88 viii. **Sara BLACKLEDGE**, married Michael FRAM⁹.

76. **Basil BLACKLEDGE**⁹. Basil has five children. His eldest, Helen Blackledge Sato, lives in Japan and married there. Helen's daughter plans to go to college in the USA.

Basil BLACKLEDGE and Anne married.⁹ **Anne**. Basil BLACKLEDGE and Anne had the following children:

- +89 i. **Helen BLACKLEDGE**, married SATO⁵.

78. **Sonya Rae BLACKLEDGE** was born on 8 May 1943.⁹ Sonya has been a personal assistant to

NASA astronauts and currently works for a nuclear physicist.

Sonya Rae BLACKLEDGE and Kenny Joe DUCKWORTH married on 26 May 1962 in Los Angeles Co, CA.^{9,20} They were divorced before 1974.⁹ **Kenny Joe DUCKWORTH** was born on 8 Apr 1941.⁹

Sonya Rae BLACKLEDGE and Kenny Joe DUCKWORTH had the following children:

- 90 i. **Joseph Michael DUCKWORTH** was born on 4 Jan 1963 in Los Angeles Co, CA.^{9,16} Connie Arrington Blackledge had said 1974, but the California Birth Index says 1963.

Sonya Rae BLACKLEDGE and John Paul WEIR married in 1974.⁹ **John Paul WEIR**. Sonya Rae BLACKLEDGE and John Paul WEIR had the following children:

- 91 i. **Kelly Morgan WEIR** was born on 17 Oct 1974.⁹

Sonya Rae BLACKLEDGE and Richard E. AAMODT married on 17 Aug 1985 in Contra Costa Co, CA.²⁰ They were divorced after 1985. **Richard E. AAMODT**⁹.

79. **Ronald Alan BLACKLEDGE** was born on 14 Jun 1945 in Long Beach, Los Angeles Co, CA.⁹ He graduated in 1969 from California State University, Long Beach, CA (MA, English Communications).⁹ Ron, who has his own commercial diving company in Long Beach Harbor, CA, was a strong swimming competitor in the US 1968 Olympic Trials until he broke his leg. Ron is an "A" Engineering Diving Contractor and has his own commercial diving company in Long Beach Harbor, CA, operating for the U.S. Navy, the Army Corps of Engineers, and Bureau of Reclamation, as well as private entities. His underwater welding capabilities have taken him and his divers throughout the West Coast states, as well as to Central and South America, and the Pacific Rim. In July 2002, Blackledge Diving was called as part of the rigging/salvage operation after Dennis Conner's hope to regain the America's Cup, his newest sailing yacht *Stars and Stripes* (USA-77) sank about a mile offshore in the Long Beach area.



Ronald Alan BLACKLEDGE and Barbara Christine GAYLORD married on 17 Feb 1970 in Los Angeles Co, CA.^{9,21} **Barbara Christine GAYLORD** was born on 21 Oct 1946.⁹ Ronald Alan BLACKLEDGE and Barbara Christine GAYLORD had the following children:

- 92 i. **William Adam BLACKLEDGE** was born on 14 Mar 1976 in Los Angeles Co, CA.^{9,21} However, the birth index said the 11th. He graduated in 1998 from the University of California at Los Angeles, CA (UCLA).⁹ William currently is a CPA who works for KPMG out of the Beverly Hills Office as a manager.

Ronald Alan BLACKLEDGE and Connie Sue ARRINGTON married on 3 Jul 1992 in Minden, Douglas Co, NV.^{9,22} **Connie Sue ARRINGTON** (daughter of Ralph Marvin ARRINGTON and Virgie POTTER) was born on 11 Jun 1957 in Twin Falls, Twin Falls Co, ID.⁹ Connie, who grew up in Tempe, AZ, has four children from a previous marriage to W. Craig SOLOMON: Chantel b. 9 March 1979; W. Chaz b. 24 June 1982; Cayla b. 16 Feb. 1985; Clay b. 11 May 1990. Connie's son, Clay, has gone by the surname BLACKLEDGE since 1992. She also has five sisters, Sally, Lisa, Brenda, Nancy and Amy Jo. The latter, a Mesa, AZ, native, made her 1998 professional debut as Christine, the talented young singer, in *The Phantom of the Opera* American touring company.

Eighteenth Generation

80. **James Erik BLACKLEDGE**⁵.

James Erik BLACKLEDGE and Jane WILKINSON married. **Jane WILKINSON**⁵.

82. **William BLACKLEDGE** like his father, is an architect.

William BLACKLEDGE and Elisha married.⁹ **Elisha**. William BLACKLEDGE and Elisha had the following children:

- 93 i. **Anna Sophia BLACKLEDGE**⁹.

83. **Nicholas BLACKLEDGE** is a landscape architect.⁹

Nicholas BLACKLEDGE and Rachel married.⁹ **Rachel**. Nicholas BLACKLEDGE and Rachel had the following children:

- 94 i. **Benedict BLACKLEDGE**⁹.
- 95 ii. **Dominic BLACKLEDGE**⁹.

85. **Jenny BLACKLEDGE**⁹.

Jenny BLACKLEDGE and Paolo VIGLIETTA married.⁹ **Paolo VIGLIETTA**. Jenny BLACKLEDGE and Paolo VIGLIETTA had the following children:

- 96 i. **Molly VIGLIETTA**⁹.
- 97 ii. **Tom VIGLIETTA**⁹.
- 98 iii. **Joseph VIGLIETTA**⁹.

86. **Clare BLACKLEDGE**⁹.

Clare BLACKLEDGE and Robert BARNES married.⁹ **Robert BARNES**.

87. **Elizabeth BLACKLEDGE**⁹.

Elizabeth BLACKLEDGE and Nicholas MORONEY married.⁹ **Nicholas MORONEY**. Elizabeth BLACKLEDGE and Nicholas MORONEY had the following children:

- 99 i. **James MORONEY**⁹.
- 100 ii. **Jenny MORONEY**⁹.
- 101 iii. **Lucy MORONEY**⁹.
- 102 iv. **Anna MORONEY**⁹.

88. **Sara BLACKLEDGE**⁹.

Sara BLACKLEDGE and Michael FRAM married.⁹ **Michael FRAM**. Sara BLACKLEDGE and Michael FRAM had the following children:

103 i. **Susanah FRAM**⁹.

89. **Helen BLACKLEDGE**⁵ is the eldest of five children and lives in Japan.

Helen BLACKLEDGE and SATO married.⁵ **SATO**. Helen BLACKLEDGE and SATO had the following children:

104 i. **<daughter> SATO** was born about 1982. She was eighteen years old in Mar 2000 and planned to go to college in the U.S.A.

Sources for Descendants of Ewan Blakelache

1. Sir Anthony R. Wagner and Richard Preston Graham-Vivian, Esq. "*Blackledge of Leyland and Blythe Hall*," lineage chart prepared for James Gressier Blackledge. Note: David W. Blackledge, the primary compiler for this chapter, concluded that this source had skipped a generation and had the wrong Ewan taking over Blythe Hall from Henry, whereas sources 2. and 4. (below) appear to be quite compatible.

2. *A History of Lancashire*, p. 254.

3. W. E. Blacklidge. "History of Blacklidge Family," a booklet he printed privately in 1921. Several drafts and versions are held by various relatives, often with notes in the back pertaining to their own line and bringing it past 1814 where he stopped with Ichabod's son, Jacob, and his children. Copy in possession of David W. Blackledge.

4. Blythe Hall, historical pamphlet available at this historic great house between Ormskirk and Lathom, Lancashire, England.

5. Ewan George Blackledge, Genealogy chart prepared May 1977 and subsequent correspondence with Connie Sue (Arrington) Blackledge and David W. Blackledge.

6. Ormskirk Parish Church Register, England.

7. Blakelache, Ewan. Last Will dated 5 Jul 1565, proved 17 Apr 1567.

8. John Burke, Esq. *A Genealogical and Heraldic History of the Commoners of Great Britain and Ireland*, V. I. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co, Inc. 1977.

9. Connie Sue (Arrington) Blackledge. 1999-2002 E-mail info provided on husband's family records (Ron Blackledge) to David W. Blackledge.

10. WWI Civilian Draft Registrations, online at Ancestry.com.

11. Connie Sue (Arrington) Blackledge. E-mail on 26 July 2002 to David W. Blackledge.

12. England & Wales, Death Index: 1916-2006, Ancestry.com.

13. England & Wales, Free BMD Birth Index: 1837-1983, Ancestry.com.

14. Ellis Island Immigration Records.

15. California Death Index, 1940-1997, Ancestry.com.

16. California Birth Index, 1905-1995, Ancestry.com.
17. Western States Marriage Record Index, online at <http://abish.byui.edu/specialCollections/westernStates/>.
18. California Death Records, RootsWeb.com.
19. California Divorce Index, 1966-1984, Ancestry.com.
20. California Marriage Index, 1960-1985, Ancestry.com.
21. California Birth Index, VitalRecords.com, online.
22. Nevada Marriage Index, 1956-2005, Ancestry.com.

Closing

This chapter presents an excellent example of a Blackledge family that started in England and spread not only to the United States, but throughout the world. If you have additional information on English ancestors, the compilers would be most appreciative if you would contact the primary compiler for this chapter, David W. Blackledge of Carlisle, PA, who is most interested in pursuing such leads. Contact information is provided at the end of the Preface.
